EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Andrew Wright, Reg.# 58,267 on 06/01/2010.

3. **This listing of claim will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a transaction processing system, the method comprising:

defining at least one criterion including all of: a system level criterion, a transaction level criterion, a multi-transactional level criterion, and a workload characteristic, using a server;

defining at least one threshold metric for each of the at least one criterion using the server;

defining at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric using the server;

performing the at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric being met using the server; ~~and~~

implementing an interval criterion matrix using the server, wherein the interval criterion matrix is a source of configurable data and is created by an administrator or accessed from a pre-built electronic source;

acquiring a transaction list of currently executing transactions;

collecting details for each of the currently executing transactions;

evaluating transaction details against the interval criterion matrix which further defines thresholds associated with the currently executing transactions; and

performing actions when the evaluation step determines a threshold has been met.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the defining at least one trigger action step includes defining at least one of a system level trigger action and a transaction level trigger action.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one criterion includes at least one of a processor utilization characteristic, memory utilization characteristic, an input/output characteristic, a storage characteristic, and a network interface characteristic.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein defining at least one threshold metric includes defining at least one of a single and a progressive variable relative to a measurement of an aspect of the transaction processing system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further including repeating each of the steps at predefined intervals.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one trigger action includes at least one of changing the priority of a transaction, terminating a transaction, delaying a transaction, quiescing a transaction, causing another system to stop forwarding transactions, triggering routing of transactions to a different system, and ending a process.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

defining at least one transaction identifier that identifies subsets of transactions; and

defining at least one transaction level threshold metric associated with the at least one transaction identifier.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the performing step performs the at least one trigger action on a transaction associated with the at least one transaction identifier.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the performing step performs when the at least one transaction level threshold metric is met.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

defining a system level threshold metric; and

associating the system level threshold metric with the at least one transaction identifier and with the at least one transaction level threshold metric.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the performing step is only performed when both the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric are met.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the defining at least one transaction identifier includes defining a transaction group identifier.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the defining at least one threshold metric defines a transaction group level metric.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

loading runtime parameters;

validating the runtime parameters; and

terminating processing if the parameters are deemed unacceptable.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

acquiring a list of aggregate transaction groups;

collecting details for each aggregate transaction group;

evaluating each aggregated transaction group details against the interval criterion matrix which further defines thresholds associated with each aggregated transaction group; and

performing actions when the evaluation step determines a threshold has been met.

18. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising collecting data on the status of the transaction processing system, wherein the collecting is performed by one of executable collection logic and interpretable definitions.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a system, comprising the steps of:

determining current conditions of a workload characteristic using a server;

evaluating the current conditions of the workload characteristic using the server;

dynamically adjusting system administration criteria based on a threshold metric associated with the current conditions of the workload characteristic using the server; ~~and~~

implementing an interval criterion matrix using the server, wherein the interval criterion matrix is a source of configurable data and is created by an administrator or accessed from a pre-built electronic source;

defining a system level threshold metric associated with the workload characteristic;

defining at least one transaction identifier that identifies subsets of transactions;

defining at least one transaction level threshold metric associated with the at least one transaction identifier and a transaction workload characteristic; and

associating the system level threshold metric with the at least one transaction identifier and with the at least one transaction level threshold metric.

wherein the dynamically adjusting step is only performed when both the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric are met.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the workload characteristic is at least one of a transaction workload characteristic and a system environment workload characteristic.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the workload characteristic is a transaction processing system characteristic.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the adjusting includes at least one of changing the priority of a transaction, terminating a transaction, delaying a transaction, quiescing a transaction, causing another system from forwarding transactions, triggering routing of transactions to a different system, and ending a process.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[23]] 19, wherein the dynamically adjusting step is only performed when at least one of the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric is met.

26. (Currently Amended) A computer system for managing a transaction processing system, the computer system comprising:

a means for defining at least one criterion including all of: a system level criterion, a transaction level criterion, a multi-transactional level criterion, and a workload characteristic of the transaction processing system;

a means for defining at least one threshold metric for each of the at least one criterion;

a means for defining at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric; ~~and~~

a means for implementing an interval criterion matrix, which is a source of configurable data and is created by an administrator or accessed from a pre-built electronic source;

a means for acquiring a transaction list of currently executing transactions;

a means for collecting details for each of the currently executing transactions;

a means for evaluating transaction details against the interval criterion matrix wherein the interval criterion matrix further defines thresholds associated with the currently executing transactions; and

a means for performing threshold actions when the evaluation step determines a threshold has been met.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer system of claim 26, further comprising:

a means for defining at least one transaction identifier that identifies subsets of transactions;

a means for defining at least one transaction level threshold metric associated with the at least one transaction identifier;

a means for defining a system level threshold metric; and

a means for associating the system level threshold metric with the at least one transaction identifier and with the at least one transaction level threshold metric.

28. (Previously Presented) A computer system of claim 26, further comprising:

a means for loading runtime parameters;

a means for validating the runtime parameters; and

a means for terminating processing if the parameters are deemed unacceptable.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A computer system of claim 26, further comprising a criterion matrix, wherein the criterion matrix comprises:

a system level metric entry that provides a system level threshold for a system level workload characteristic;

a transaction identifier entry that provides an identification for one of a transaction and a transaction group;

a transaction level metric entry that provides a transaction level threshold for transaction type defined by the transaction identifier; and

a facility action entry for identifying logic to be executed if at least one of the system level threshold and the transaction level threshold is met.

31. (Previously Presented) A computer system of claim 26, further comprising a means for performing the at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric being met.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer system for managing a transaction processing system comprising computer program code stored on a storage media, the computer system comprising:

a means for determining current conditions of at least a workload characteristic;

a means for evaluating the current conditions of at least the workload characteristic;

a means for dynamically adjusting system administration criteria based on a threshold metric associated with the current conditions of at least the workload characteristic; ~~and~~

a means for implementing an interval criterion matrix, which is a source of configurable data and is created by an administrator or accessed from a pre-built electronic source,

a means for defining a system level threshold metric associated with the workload characteristic;

a means for defining at least one transaction identifier that identifies subsets of transactions;

a means for defining at least one transaction level threshold metric associated with the at least one transaction identifier and a transaction workload characteristic; and

a means for associating the system level threshold metric with the at least one transaction identifier and with the at least one transaction level threshold metric,

wherein the means for dynamically adjusting adjusts the system administration criteria when both the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric are met.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the at least one workload characteristic is at least one of a transaction workload characteristic and a system environment workload characteristic.

34. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the at least one workload characteristic is a transaction processing system characteristic.

35. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 32, wherein the means for dynamically adjusting provides for at least one of changing the priority of a transaction, terminating a transaction, delaying a transaction, quiescing a transaction, causing another system to stop forwarding transactions, triggering routing of transactions to a different system, and ending a process.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim [[37]] 32, wherein the means for dynamically adjusting provides for only adjusting when at least one of the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric is met.

39. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising computer program code stored on a storage media ~~medium~~, the computer program product includes:

a first computer code to define at least one criterion including all of: a system level criterion, a transaction level criterion, a multi-transactional level criterion, and a workload characteristic of the transaction processing system;

a second computer code to define at least one threshold metric for each of the at least one criterion;

a third computer code to define at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric;

a fourth computer code to perform the at least one trigger action in response to the at least one threshold metric being met; and

a fifth computer code to implement an interval criterion matrix, which is a source of configurable data and is created by an administrator or accessed from a pre-built electronic source,

wherein the computer program product includes further computer code to:

define at least one transaction identifier that identifies subsets of transactions;

define at least one transaction level threshold metric associated with the at least one transaction identifier;

define a system level threshold metric; and

associate the system level threshold metric with the at least one transaction identifier and with the at least one transaction level threshold metric,

wherein the performing step is only performed when both the system level threshold metric and the transaction level threshold metric are met.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the workload characteristic is in a pre-provided list of characteristics configured to be assessed by a facility.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein each aggregated transaction group is built and administered by an administrator.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein each aggregated transaction group is pre-built and obtained from an electronic source.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the system level criterion is dynamically evaluated based upon system-level health characteristics.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the transactional level criterion is dynamically evaluated based upon transaction-specific characteristics.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the multi-transactional level criterion is dynamically evaluated based upon transaction-specific characteristics.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the facility is a software extension of the transaction processing system.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

evaluating the system level criterion from an interval criterion data source;

checking whether the system level criterion evaluation results in a required action;

determining whether there are additional system level criterion evaluations to be performed; and

carrying out the required action, which is defined by the interval criterion data source, using logic of an interval criterion action.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the interval criterion action includes informing a peer server that a triggering server is available to accept work, alerting a remote operator of an anomalous condition, or triggering a diagnostic trace on a storage area network unit.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, further comprising:

using an interval controller to halt processing for a set period of time, act upon various timers which change based upon results of scan cycles, and resume processing based upon one or more system characteristics.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ABDULLAH AL KAWSAR whose telephone number is (571)270-3169. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30am to 5:00pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng Ai T. An can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Meng-Ai An/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195

/Abdullah-Al Kawsar/
Examiner, Art Unit 2195